MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
SANTA MARIA CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 7, 2017

INVOCATION:
Pastor Dennis Mogavero of Crestwood Christian Fellowship gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:
Councilmember Cordero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:
MEMBERS PRESENT
Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Moats, Waterfield, and Mayor Patino.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT
City Manager Haydon, City Attorney Trujillo, Director of Human Resources & Records Anderson, Police Commander Schneider, Director of Finance Harvey, City Librarian Housel, Director of Community Development Ng, Director of Recreation & Parks Posada, Assistant City Attorney Sinco, Director of Utilities Springer, and Deputy City Clerk Cleary.

1. PROCLAMATIONS:

A. PROCLAMATION – ARBOR WEEK
Councilmember Moats presented a proclamation in honor of Arbor Week (March 7-14). Roy Teniente, Parks and Forest Supervisor with the City's Recreation & Parks Department, accepted the proclamation saying the City of Santa Maria would be partnering with the Santa Maria Bonita School District to educate students on the important role trees have in the environment.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Mary Solorio Jacka responded to the comments made by Andy Caldwell at the previous meeting and spoke in support of the City's transition to district elections.

Cynthia Gudino, representing Greco Realty, commented on the homeless situation in the City. She commented on the lack of ordinances the City has pertaining to homelessness. She also expressed concern that the Police Department no longer has a narcotics unit or gang task force.

Bob Orach commented on the general responsibilities of City Councilmembers and who they represent.

City Manager Haydon commented that the City does have an ordinance regulating camping and an ordinance regarding the closure of public parks after sunset. He suggested that residents and business owners who observe anyone camping or loitering near their businesses call the Police Department or Park Rangers to come investigate. He added that the Police Department recently combined its Gang Enforcement Unit and its Narcotics Enforcement Unit into the Detective Bureau, increasing the number of detectives on the force and expanding their work shifts into the evening hours.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR:
Deputy City Clerk Cleary announced one correction to Item 3I (Final Map for Bradley West) saying the Lot Number on the Legal Description being recorded was Lot Number 14, not 13 as indicated in the last page of the staff report.

Per Government Code 54953(c)(3), Mayor Patino announced that Agenda Item 3-C recommended a salary and benefit package for the Public Safety Managers and their Command Staff, and that the benefit package before the City Council will include a 3.5 percent salary increase. Mayor Patino also stated she would be leaving the Chambers during the vote on Item 3J (North Depot Street Improvements) as she lived within 500 feet of the project and it would be a Conflict of Interest if she were to vote on the item.

Councilmembers Waterfield and Boysen announced they would abstain from voting on Item 3D (Warrants) due to a financial conflict of interest.

Councilmember Boysen also asked to pull Item 3K (Proposal for the Governor's Drought Task Force) for comment. He pointed out that three projects listed to provide drought relief and future drought mitigation were: 1) the re-commissioning of the desalination plant in Santa Barbara, 2) a comprehensive re-use program for Goleta and the Carpinteria Valley, and 3) the reacquisition of suspended Santa Barbara County Table A water (a project that the City has been working on for several months).

Consent Calendar Items 3A through 3L (except Items 3D and 3J) were approved, on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Moats, Waterfield, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Consent Calendar Item 3D (Warrants) was approved on motion by Councilmember Cordero, seconded by Councilmember Moats, and carried on the following vote: 3-0-2

AYES: Councilmembers Cordero, Moats, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Boysen and Waterfield

Mayor Patino left the Chambers at 6:51 p.m. due to a conflict of interest with the next Item 3J.

Consent Calendar Item 3J (North Depot Street Improvements) was approved on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Moats, and carried on the following vote: 4-0

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Moats, and Waterfield
NOES: None
ABSENT: Mayor Patino
ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Patino returned to Chambers at 6:52 p.m.

A. ORDINANCES
The reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions was waived. Ordinances on the Consent Calendar were adopted by the same vote cast at the first reading unless City Council indicated otherwise.

B. MINUTES
The Minutes of the regular Meeting of the City Council of February 21, 2017, were approved as submitted.

C. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND WAGE/BENEFIT PACKAGE
Resolution Nos. 2017-23 and 2017-24 were adopted approving a tentative agreement on amendments to and an extension of the current Memorandum of Understanding with the Santa Maria Police Association of Middle Management; and a wage and benefit package for Public Safety Managers.

Resolution No. 2017-23 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AN AMENDMENT AND AN EXTENSION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH SANTA MARIA POLICE ASSOCIATION OF MIDDLE MANAGEMENT (SMPAMM).

Resolution No. 2017-24 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A WAGE AND BENEFIT PACKAGE FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGERS.

D. WARRANTS
Warrant Nos. 205724 to 206047 totaling $2,347,688.20 were ordered ratified subject to having been certified as being in conformity with the budget and having been approved for payment by the Director of Finance. Warrant Nos. 198560, 198583, 198626, and 199068 were cancelled.

E. PAYROLL
Payment of payroll was ordered ratified subject to having been certified by the proper Department Heads, as shown on records on file in the Department of Finance and having been approved for payment by the Director of Finance.

F. LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND
Resolution Nos. 2017-25 and 2017-26 were adopted authorizing the deposit and withdrawal of monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund in the State Treasury for the City of Santa Maria and Successor Agency of the City of Santa Maria; and authorizing City officers, and their successors in office, to order such action.

Resolution No. 2017-25 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING INVESTMENT OF MONIES IN THE LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF) FOR THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY FUND.

Resolution No. 2017-26 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING INVESTMENT OF CITY OF SANTA MARIA MONIES IN THE LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF).

G. POLICE DEPARTMENT SURPLUS MOTORCYCLES
Resolution No. 2017-27 was adopted declaring four (4) used traffic motorcycles to be surplus equipment, and authorizing the sale of two (2) each to the Morro Bay Police Department and the Grover Beach Police Department.

Resolution No. 2017-27 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE SALE OF SURPLUS POLICE MOTORCYCLES TO THE CITIES OF MORROW BAY AND GROVER BEACH.

H. FINAL MAP AND SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT – REFUGIO TOWNHOMES
Resolution No. 2017-28 was adopted approving a Final Map and Subdivision Improvement Agreement for Refugio Townhomes, Tract No. 5905, located at the northwest corner of McCoy Lane and Professional Parkway.

Resolution No. 2017-28 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE FINAL MAP AND SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT FOR REFUGIO TOWNHOMES, TRACT 5905.

I. FINAL MAP AND SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT – BRADLEY WEST
Resolution No. 2017-29 was adopted approving a Final Map and Subdivision Improvement Agreement for Bradley West, Tract No. 6011, of the Enos Ranchos development.

Resolution No. 2017-29 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE FINAL MAP AND SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT FOR BRADLEY WEST, TRACT 6011.

J. NORTH DEPOT STREET IMPROVEMENTS
Resolution Nos. 2017-30 and 2017-31 were adopted approving the design of the North Depot Street Improvements and awarding the bid for the North Depot Street Improvements, Bid No. 2016/11, to Souza Construction, Inc., in the amount of $328,000.

Resolution No. 2017-30 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, PURSUANT TO SECTION 830.6 OF THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE, APPROVING THE DESIGN OF THE NORTH DEPOT STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/CITY ENGINEER TO EXERCISE DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY TO APPROVE FIELD CHANGES TO THE DESIGN.

Resolution No. 2017-31 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH SOUZA CONSTRUCTION, FOR BID NO. 2016/11, NORTH DEPOT STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

K. PROPOSAL TO GOVERNOR'S DROUGHT TASK FORCE
Resolution No. 2017-32 was adopted in support of the Santa Barbara County Operational Area Proposal to the Governor's Drought Task Force; and asking Santa Barbara County to distribute the Proposal to the Drought Task Force, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the State Senate, and the State Assembly.

Resolution No. 2017-32 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, TO SUPPORT THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA PROPOSAL TO THE GOVERNOR'S DROUGHT TASK FORCE AND LIST OF PROJECTS, AND REQUEST THAT SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DISTRIBUTE THE PROPOSAL AND PROJECT LIST TO THE DROUGHT TASK FORCE, THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES, THE STATE SENATE, AND THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

L. SUPPLEMENTAL WATER RATE ADJUSTMENT
Resolution No. 2017-33 was adopted adjusting the rate of supplemental water to $42,000 per acre-foot.

Resolution No. 2017-33 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, TO INCREASE THE RATE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL WATER.

4. **MEASURE U2012 CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT.** City Manager Haydon gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report. Measure U2012 is a ¼-cent essential services sales tax aimed at increasing public safety staff and programs. The City established the Measure U2012 Citizens' Oversight Committee and used an Independent Auditor to oversee the use of funds. Measure U2012 was created at the height of the recession when General Fund Revenues had decreased over $10 million in a 3-year period.

When the Measure was passed, Council approved using the funding to help pay for costs associated with Fire Station #5; hiring seven (7) Police Officer positions; adding five (5) Police Sergeant positions; and hiring a full-time Fire Battalion Chief, Crime Analyst, Dispatcher, Senior Park Services Officer, and Code Compliance Officer. All of these positions had been vacant. In addition, various part-time positions were filled to increase operating hours at the Library and fill positions with the PAL Program and the Graffiti Abatement Program.

In 2013-14, these positions were still part of the On-Going Expenditure Plan. Council also requested that funds be used to repair the Santa Maria Levee, hire an additional Police Commander position and fund auditing services.

In 2014-15, further expenses included upgrading the limited service Emergency Services Coordinator to a part-time position; upgrading a vacant Battalion Chief position to that of Deputy Fire Chief; and providing $18,000 in appropriations to cover increased utility expenses at the Library.

In 2015-16, expenses were reduced by downgrading the vacant Deputy Fire Chief position to that of Battalion Chief. The City also had some carry-over funding that was to be used to rehabilitate the Fire Department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus; purchase additional personnel protective equipment; as well as other one-time Fire Department Capital expense. Overall, last year, Measure U revenue came in at $4.1 million, however the appropriations came in at $4.4 million. With a beginning fund balance of $714,000, the ending fund balance was $419,000. Approximately 91 percent of Measure U funding was spent on public safety.

In 2017-18, staff predicts a negative fund balance of about $61,000 by year-end if revenues do not pick up. At the last Oversight Committee meeting, the Committee encouraged the City Council to re-assess the operating expenses in Measure U so that the revenues could finance them.

Measure U2012 Committee Vice-chair Jack Owen commented that, while Council was being asked to re-assess the priorities of Measure U funding, the Committee felt strongly that public safety should remain at the top of the priority list.

Councilmember Waterfield asked if the projected 2017-18 revenues included the new Enos Ranchos Development.

City Manager Haydon responded that projected revenues did not take into account the new Development due to the lag time required for sales tax to be remitted to the City. Sales tax comes to the City based on historical trends from previous quarters. In the last quarter, a "true-up" summarizes actual revenues and the actual sales tax revenue will be received in that final quarter. Thus, any significant revenues from the Enos Ranchos Development will not be evident until the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Councilmember Moats asked what ideas the City had to help lower its deficit.

City Manager Haydon responded that a couple of options would be to keep staff vacancies open to save salaries. Another option would be to shift or transition some of the Measure U positions over to the General Fund which offers more flexibility and different revenue funding options. Staff could also review the loan for the levee repair and explore options to pay that off sooner than later. He stated this combination of factors would be brought before the City Council in June during the mid-cycle budget review.

Public input
There was no public input.

Council Discussion
There was no Council discussion.

The report was accepted and filed on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Cordero, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Moats, Waterfield, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

5. FORMATION OF DISTRICTS FOR DISTRICT-BASED ELECTIONS. Translator Carlos Escobedo introduced himself and offered to translate for anyone needing translation during the Public Hearing.

Assistant City Attorney Sinco gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report. The City received a letter from an attorney alleging that the City's at-large election process violated the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). Lawsuits filed under the CVRA have been difficult and expensive for cities to defend against, and in consideration of this, on February 21, 2017, the Council adopted a resolution in support of proceeding with the transition to district-based elections. The law requires that cities transitioning to district elections hold two public hearings within 30 days of approving the transition, but prior to presenting proposed district maps. The purpose of the hearings is to solicit input from the public on how the districts should be composed. Mr. Sinco encouraged the audience not to make comments regarding whether they were for or against district elections, but rather to share their thoughts on how the district boundaries should be drawn.

Mr. Sinco explained that outreach efforts with the English and Spanish local media had been conducted to help educate the public on the districting process. Staff also created a webpage dedicated to the process. Districts are legally required to: 1) have a nearly equal population; 2) comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act; and 3) be drawn excluding race as the predominate factor. Districts may also be contiguous territory in as compact form as possible; represent areas of interest; have borders that follow natural and man-made geographical/topographical features; attempt to avoid head-to-head conflict between incumbent Councilmembers; and be drawn taking into account future growth.

Councilmember Cordero asked how often districts have to be redrawn.

Assistant City Attorney Sinco responded that they could be redrawn every time there was a census, so about every ten (10) years.

City Manager Haydon stated that demographers, Mr. Johnson and Dr. Levitt with the National Demographics Corporation, were not able to be in attendance but would be present at future public hearings. The demographers would be provided with all of the public's comments so that they could be prepared for the next meeting on March 30, 2017.

City Manager Haydon presented a PowerPoint put together by the demographers to explain the process of districting. Election systems at the Municipal Level can be of three types. The first is the at-large or citywide elections which is the system by which Santa Maria currently conducts its elections. This type is the most susceptible to litigation by the California Voting Rights Act. Another type of election system is the from-district or residence requirements. This is also susceptible to litigation from the CVRA. The third type of election system, strongly favored by the CVRA, is the by-district system. With the at-large election, one voting block can significantly outnumber another and the majority wins every at-large seat. With the by-district system, a city is drawn up into districts of equal populations thereby allowing each district to elect a representative of its own interests.

Currently, there is a shift throughout California for cities to convert to by-district elections. This legislation was signed by Governor Gray Davis in 2002, suspended for a couple of years, but then reinstated by an appeals court in 2006. More recently, Governor Brown signed AB350 which went into effect January 1, 2017, limiting plaintiffs' attorney fees to $30,000. At least 142 School Districts, 28 Community College Districts, 53 cities, one County Board of Supervisors, and eight Water and other Special Districts are in litigation or have already switched to by-district elections. Given the low probability of defeating a CVRA challenge, most cities are choosing to transition to district-based elections. Palmdale, and other cities that have tried to challenge the CVRA, have spent millions of dollars in attorney fees.

Transitioning to district-based elections would involve several steps. The City of Santa Maria has 90 days to complete the process. First, two public hearings must be held to receive input on the composition of potential districts. Tonight is the first of these two hearings and the next hearing will take place Thursday, March 30th, at the Veterans' Memorial Center. In mid-April, draft maps will be

published. A third public hearing will take place on Thursday, April 20th, to receive testimony on the draft maps. On May 2nd, another public hearing will be held to conduct the first reading and introduction of the Map Ordinance. On May 16th, the second reading and adoption of the Map Ordinance will be conducted. The final ordinances must be adopted no later than May 22, 2017. At the November 2018 election, the first two Council Districts' elections will be held and in November 2020, the remaining Council Districts' elections will be held.

Federal laws regarding districting specify that districts must be in equal populations, follow the Federal Voting Rights Act, and have no racial gerrymandering. Some of the considerations for transitioning to district elections would be communities of interest, how compact a district is, that it is contiguous to the city boundaries and other districts, visible (natural or man-made) topographical boundaries or features, voters' wishes and continuity in office, and future growth in the city.

Communities of Interest have shared interests, views, or characteristics. For example, school attendance areas; city boundaries; and natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals, and/or hills; areas around parks or other neighborhood landmarks; common issues, activities, or legislative/election concerns; and shared demographics such as single-family homes or renters.

City Manager Haydon invited the public to view a demographic summary on the City's district elections webpage at www.cityofsantamaria.org. The source of the information refers to the 2010 Census. District boundaries change each time there is new census data, so roughly every ten (10) years. The key numbers are the Total Population (number of people per district) and Citizen Voting Age Population (measures voting strength based on eligible voters). In 2010, the City had approximately 99,000 residents of which roughly 46,000 were of voting age and eligible to register and to vote in an election. The Latino voting age population numbers roughly 23,000 out of 46,000. Latinos are a slim majority of eligible voters in Santa Maria at 50.2 percent and are most heavily concentrated in the northwestern part of the City. The non-Hispanic population is about 18,000 and makes up 39 percent of the voting age population. Asian-Pacific Islanders make up about 8 percent, and African-Americans make up about 2 percent of the population. There are no neighborhoods with large and concentrated enough Asian-American or African-American residents to impact the drawing of district lines.

Santa Maria has two areas that are heavier residential areas. One being south of Alvin between Highway 101 and Broadway above Main Street. The other area is south of Main Street, north of Stowell Road, between Blosser and Broadway. Other demographic data that might be used in identifying the City's communities of interest could be the language spoken in the area, single-family and multi-family housing units, and income levels.

Key community input that would be valuable to hear from Santa Maria residents would be how they define their neighborhood communities of interest and what other surrounding neighborhoods share similar interests.

Written Communications
Deputy City Clerk Cleary indicated that written correspondence had been received from Robert Dickerson and Hunter & Carla Jameson in support of having the Mayor's seat be an at-large seat voted on by the entire City. George Enriquez also mailed in a proposed district map.

Public Hearing
Mayor Patino opened the public hearing at 7:33 p.m.

Gale McNeeley spoke in support of holding the next public hearing at the Veterans' Community Center saying some residents might be more comfortable giving their input in a community setting. He proposed that the City create five (5) districts with a rotating Mayoral seat where each person on the Council would rotate into the position. Mr. McNeeley asked if the public would have access to a web-based tool to create districts. He also inquired about a workshop to teach community members how to use the tool along with any rules the public should be aware of. He indicated that when the City of Santa Barbara went through the process of transitioning to district elections, they referred to protected classes under the Voting Rights Act, such as the African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Latinos, saying those neighborhoods could not be divided. The rules are such that a protected class cannot be diluted into districts diluting their power nor can they be packed into one district to limit their impact.

Danny Mogg commented that he and his wife have lived in Santa Maria for five years in the northeast corner of the City near Pioneer High School. He urged everyone to implement the district boundaries equitably and in accordance with the Voting Rights Act. He urged that the election of each Councilmember be exclusive to their elective districts. He stated he believed residents would be more

encouraged to participate in the election process under district-based elections and that he would feel more comfortable having a representative who knew the day to day events of his own neighborhood.

Hazel Davalos, representing CAUSE, thanked the City Council for approving going forward with the transition to district-based elections. She stated that, in order to comply with the CVRA, Santa Maria districts must ensure that Latino neighborhoods are fairly represented at City Hall. The majority of eligible voters, or citizens of voting age in Santa Maria, are Latino. To reflect this, at least half of the districts should represent neighborhoods where the majority of citizens of voting age are Latino. If the City ends up with four (4) districts, two (2) should have majority Latino voters to avoid any perception by the courts that the lines are being gerrymandered to limit Latino community representation. She recommended drawing lines along Main Street and Broadway splitting the City into southeast, southwest, northwest, and northeast quadrants. She indicated that the neighborhoods west of Broadway both above and below Main Street are heavily Latino as well as younger, lower income, and more likely to be renters, have children, and use public transportation. She closed saying these characteristics form natural communities of interest that should be protected under the CVRA.

Kathy Sharum indicated she looked forward to participating in the process of transitioning.

Joana Barrera, a college student and lifetime Santa Maria resident, spoke about the neighborhood she lives in. She said she thought the districting should group similar neighborhoods together in community interests such as home ownership versus renters; income; and available neighborhood services. She also suggested the division into quadrants by drawing the lines at Main and Broadway and said she looked forward to future hearings and hoped the process would stay within the guidelines of the CVRA.

Jessie Funes, a one year Santa Maria resident from the northwest side, expressed concern that representation from the northwest ensure access with regard to tenant rights; good environmental surroundings and air quality; recreational parks and facilities for families; healthcare; and better lighting in the neighborhood.

Elizabeth Schneider recommended creating five (5) districts with a rotating Mayoral seat similar to what San Luis Obispo County does. She also encouraged the Council to invite city residents to come out and speak up at the public hearings.

Dan Shepard expressed his concern about transitioning to district-based elections. He illustrated his concern saying the County supervisorial system had been "Balkanized" to the point where a representative responsible to Isla Vista was responsible to Isla Vista only, and had no ear for the farmers in Cuyama Valley. Thus, decisions could become polarizing, frozen, or blocked making it difficult to move an agenda that represents and respects the entire County as a whole. He said he believes this is one of the reasons there has been continued talk about the north-south County divide in terms of politics and economics of Santa Barbara County. He expressed concern that district-based elections might bring certain businesses to a grinding halt in the City. He said he hoped the Mayoral seat would remain an at-large vote so that at least one representative would be responsible to the entire city. Mr. Shepard suggested possible solutions or alternatives might include a cumulative voting system whereby every person who is voting is allowed one vote per candidate on the slate. Then the system could do what's called "plumping" which means if a community or protected class has a preferred candidate, they take all of their votes and apply it to that preferred candidate.

Roy Reed introduced himself as a life-long resident of the City except for about 15 years from the mid-1980's to 2000. He stated that, in the 1980's, he found Santa Maria to be quite polarized; but upon returning to Santa Maria, he found the City to be more inclusive and believes the Council is a good representation of the City's residents. He said, he had lived all over California and had seen district-based voting work for some and be quite divisive for others. He wished the Council luck during the transition, and hoped the final outcome would be more inclusive than divisive for the City of Santa Maria.

Sandra Espino, a resident in the northeast part of Santa Maria, stated she believed it was important that the districts be similar to each other. She said her neighbors often came to her with issues with their landlords and she looked forward to having a district representative that her neighbors could ask their questions to instead of her. She also said she was happy the next public hearing would be at the Veterans' Hall and she hoped the public would be more comfortable coming out to speak up.

Mayor Patino closed the public hearing at 7:59 p.m.

Councilmember Cordero asked for clarification on race and the creation of district lines. The staff report had said lines could not be drawn taking race into consideration, but the requests and suggestions have been taking race into consideration.

City Manager Haydon responded that each comment at the meeting had been recorded and would be presented to the demographer. At the meeting on March 30th, the demographer would be in a position to address these questions. He reiterated that the purpose of the initial public hearings was to hear what the public would like to see in terms of the composition of districts.

Mayor Patino asked that her question of what will happen in the case of annexations be added to those questions presented to the demographer.

REPORT BY CITY MANAGER:
City Manager Haydon reported the next City Council meeting would be on March 21, 2017, and would include a C3H update and a public hearing regarding an appeal for the ABC License recently granted to the Chevron gas station on Santa Maria Way allowing it to sell alcohol. There will not be a discussion of district elections, however, the public will still be able to make comments regarding the topic during public comment. The next formal Public Hearing regarding district composition will be held on March 30th, at 5:30 p.m. at the Veterans' Memorial Building.

ORAL REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS AND OFFICERS (INCLUDING AB1234 REPORTS):
Councilmember Boysen congratulated Police Commander Schneider and Lieutenant Mengel on their recent promotions. He also reported he met with the City Attorney's Office for a conference call with the Department of Finance regarding a funding opportunity from the State of California to address transitional housing for homeless individuals.

Councilmember Waterfield reported that she attended the Firefighters' Recognition Dinner; the Santa Barbara County Women's Leadership meeting; a Helping Hands Outreach to the Homeless at Hope Mission Church; the LAFCO meeting; a Leadership Santa Maria meeting; participated in Read Across America at Taylor School; presented a proclamation to the California and Hawaii Elks Associations; attended the badge pinning for Commander Schneider and Lieutenant Mengel; and a Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting.

Councilmember Moats reported that he attended the Firefighters' Recognition Dinner; the Kiwanis Scholarship Dinner; and the Orcutt Childrens' Art Project.

Councilmember Cordero reported that he attended the Firefighters' Recognition Dinner; a meeting with Ed Weaver of Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley; a CAC meeting; spoke to the Leadership Santa Maria group; and attended the Badge Pinning for Commander Schneider and Lieutenant Mengel.

Mayor Patino reported that she attended the Firefighters' Recognition Dinner; met with Leadership Santa Maria Valley; met with Santa Maria Elks Rodeo coordinators; attended the badge pinning of Commander Schneider and Lieutenant Mengel; spoke on the Ben Heighes Radio Show and attended a ribbon cutting for Donna Randolph's new office. Mayor Patino also invited everyone to the Women's Day event being held March 8th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Allan Hancock College.

ADJOURNMENT:
There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor Patino declared the City Council meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

APPROVED:

March 21, 2017
Date

M. Beth Cleary
M. Beth Cleary
Deputy City Clerk and ex officio Clerk of the City Council

ATTEST:

M. Beth Cleary
M. Beth Cleary
Deputy City Clerk

Alice M. Patino
Alice M. Patino
Mayor of the City of Santa Maria